

GUILDHALL
LONDON.

The Famous History of the Valiant

LONDON RECENTLY.



Printed for S. and J. at the Sign of the White Horse.



111

THE
Famous History
OF
The VALIANT
London-Prentice,
SHEWING
His Noble EXPLOITS

at *Home and Abroad*:

LONDON.

His LOVE and great SUCCESS

LIBRARY

Very Pleasant and Delightful.

Written for Encouragement of Youth.

By J. S.

This may be Printed, R. P.

Printed for J. Back, at the Black-Ear on the middle of London-Bridge, 1692.

Famous



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The HISTORY of the
London-Prentice, &c.

~~W. D. HALL~~
C H A P. I.

LIBRARY
An Account of his Birth, Education and
early Valour, &c.

In times past, there was born in the famous County of Chester, a young man of excellent beauty, promising very great things, even in his Infancy; to promote which, his parents being wealthy, spared not to educate or bring him up in the best manner the Country would afford, nor did he as he grew up fall in any thing their expectation. In Learning he was well seen, and in many other matters, but nothing so inflamed his mind as the desire of exercising himself in feats of Arms, and was the more incited thereto by Reading the famous Adventures of Knight-Errants, how successful they were in overcoming Gyants and

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Monsters, and rescuing brautous La-
dies from death and misery ; and as these
Heroick thoughts increased, so he found
his strength abound. Nature not sparing
to give him many Limbs and an able Bo-
dy, so that in his Childish Encounters
those that far surpassed him in years,
were not able to resist his force, nor come
near him in Wresteling, Jumping, Run-
ning, casting the Bar, Stone or Dart ;
which made not his Parents but a little
proud of such a blessing, whom they had
named Aurelius, as one that promised
great things.

C H A P. II.

An Account of his first Adventures and
Enterprizes, where he won the Vir-
gins Hearts, &c.

When Aurelius was at the Age of four-
teen, he went to a Wake or Merry-
meeting, to recreate himself with other
Youths of the Country ; where he so well
behaved himself, that his courage, acti-
vity, strength and beauty, gained great
applause, and took so mainly with the
Virgins, that some of them began to feel
a Fe-

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a Fever in their Minds, which Cupid, who at such Merry-meetings is seldom wanting in promoting the Busyness of Love, failed not to increase: but he as yet not capable of feeling the Flame of Passion that way, regarded not their amorous glances, nor understood the silent Language of enflamed Hearts, though it notwithstanding, created him those Enemies that were causelessly jealous of him, as a most dangerous Rival, and who gathered their Reason for it, from the many praises their Mistresses bestowed on him in his absence.

C H A P. III.

How the fair Lucinda fell in Love with him; how those she despised for his sake, conspired against him.

Our Youth increasing his Strength and Beauty with his yeats, and continuing, as occasion offered, to appear in publick amongst those admiring Virgins, that in a manner doated on him, and often wished to be Mistresses of his Affections; Lucinda the fair Daughter of a Wealthy Shepherd was the chief, who sought by

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many ways to oblige him, and to let him understand her Passion; but Modesty sealing her Lips, he did not, nor would not Interpret her Dumb Signs, but kept on his Merriment, without any regard of her Passion; which made her sigh and grow melancholy, refusing to entertain the Addresses of those that adored her, and doated on her Beauties, more than she did on those that adorned our Heroick Youth. This suddain alteration made them restless till they knew the Cause of it, which was not long e'er they did from her Virgin Companions, to whom she had dropped some words of her Passion, as likewise by a Letter she had written in order to send to him, by a trusty hand, but had accidentally dropped it, in which were these words:

Dear Aurelius, seeing you do not understand the language of a Love-sick Virgins Eyes, pardon my boldness if with Blushes I have taken the liberty to let you know Lucinda doats on you, and begs you would requite her Love with Love, who for your sake renounces the rest of mankind: then have compassion, or Lucinda must be miserable.

Subscribed Lucinda.

This

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This giving the Amorists a full knowledge, upon whose account they found such cold entertainment from their beloved Mistresses, whom every one of them feared to lose, they bent their study how to remove that Screen that stood between them and their much desired happiness: some were of Opinion, that nothing but the death of Aurelius could effect it; but others of a milder disposition, declared, That it would not only be too much Cruelty, but bring their own Lives in question; therefore considering Woman-kind was generally more taken with the Beauty of the Body, than with that of the Soul, they thought it fit to Deform him with Poxes; but where to get it they knew not, and so came to a result, that to disfigure his Face with Wounds might work the same effect, and put an end to the passion of their Dear Lucinda, which they knew not any other ways to extinguish.

As many times as possible
Letters for a week or drops of
foulish ocher mixed together
C H A P.



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C H A P. IV.

How they attempted to destroy Aurelius,
but were overcome and left naked in
the Wood.

The Plot thus lay'd against our Valiant Youth, many ways were sought for an opportunity to put it in practice, till at last they understood he was gone to pay a visit to an Aunt of his, who lived at a Village about two Miles from his Father's House, and that he must return by a Wood: This lucky opportunity, as they imagined it, made them all leap for Joy, there being four in number, they armed them with mischievous Weapons, and in disguise, placed themselves in Ambush under a Thicket of Trees, in the way he must pass, each Swearing to the other to keep the thing secret; though they kept not their Oaths, as you will hear. Long they had not stayed, but as they wished, our valiant Youth not dreaming of such Treachery, came on; but hearing the Bushes rustle he made a halt to see what it meant, when out leaped the Thieves, and encompassing him, about them

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they had uttered many big words, and reviled him at an unseemly rate, they made in to grapple with him ; who ignorant of their intent, and scorning to stoop to fear, took the two foremost in either hand, and by main force brought their Heads together , that they rung like a Barber's Basin : so that stunn'd with the valiant knocks, after staggering some paces, down they fell ; and having, by this time wrested a Weapon from one of them, he set upon the other two with such fury, that giving them several Wounds, they, when they found the blood run about their Ears, fell on their Knees, and cried for mercy, as did the other, who by this time were recovered from their Trance ; yet could not they obtain their Wish till he had thrashed them into a Confession of the whole matter, and thereby became sensible of the Love Lucinda bore him ; and that she might come to the knowledge of what had happened on this occasion, and that their treachery might be rewarded with disgrace , he caused them to unstrip , and with such tackling as their Garments afforded, he bound them to four several Trees stark naked, where these

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These hot-brain'd Lovers took a fit of Cooling till the morning, which discovering the whole Intrigue, their rash Valour became for some time after the birth of the Country; but most of all, it pleased the fair Lucinda, whose favour they lost thereby.

C H A P. V.

How his Father put him an Apprentice to a Merchant, and the leave he took of Lucinda.

The Father of Young Aurelius having received an exact account of all that had happened, and fearing these Lovers might study a further Revenge to repair their Disgrace, as also to prevent any amours that might happen between him and Lucinda, to whom he was not willing he should be married; he took an opportunity to discourse him about putting himself in a way that might render him capable of living in Credit in the World: When finding him pliable and ready to submit to what he should propose, he told him it was his pleasure he should go to London, and there be put an Apprentice to some Honourable Col-

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ling that he might be a comfort to him in his old days ; and that it should be in his power to chuse him a Master of any profession. He had not long considered e're he reply'd, That seeing it was his pleasure, he was contented; and for the desire he had to travel and see strange Countries he could fancy none better than a Merchant : To this the old Man agrees, and shortly after he was sent up to London, and placed to a Turkey-Merchant upon London-Bridge, and upon his departure directed these Lines to Lucinda.

Pardon me Beauteous Maid, if Love as yet
No power a Conquest o'er me has to get ;
That you deserve what e'er Love can be-
I must confess, but I alas ! must go (tow,
And wander o'er the world e're I can b'we,
Then be contented & for me ne'er grieve.

Subscribed Ameling.

This flat denial made the fair Lucinda shed many tears, and bewail her hard fortune, in loving where she was not repayed with an equal passion ; but soon after a Rich Farmers Son offering Service to her, she having with much strug-
ling overcome her former affections, she
changed

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changed her Passion, and sacrificed her
Virginitie to the pleasure of this new-
come Lover, where Rebelling in excess
of joy, we will leave them, and follow Au-
relius to his new preferment.

C H A P. VI.

How he gained the Love of his Master,
and became enamoured of Dorinda his
fair Daughter.

Our YOUTH upon his Tryal, proved so
diligent and respectful, that it was
not long ere he was Bound, according
to the custom of the City, and then dou-
bling his Diligence, he won the love of
the whole Family, n't doubting any thing
that might please or ye for his Master's
Interest, and what time he had to spare,
he employed in Manly Exercise of recre-
ating himself in the Fencing-School, and
in Martial Exploits, gaining every where
the name of a bold and hardy Youth, and
one that promised great things. In this
happy State he lived near three years;
when Fortune (who is as uncontrollant as
the wind) conspired to give him some gi-
vehance, for Dorinda his Master's daugh-
ter,

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ter a beautiful Virgin, of about 14 Years of Age, returning from the School where she had been brought up at Board, her M-
desty, winning Behaviour, and Charming Graces, by his often gazing on her, prompted him to admire her, and by degrees, to conceive such a Passion for that excellent Creature, that he was no longer Master of his Heart, which his Eyes had given away: A while he smothered the Flame, but in the end it broke out the fiercer, and then he knew experimentally what Lacinda had suffered often; he attempted to discover his Passion, and as often fear'd to offend, stayed the words at his Tongues end, and all he could do, was to sigh and stand confounded in her presence; whilst the Innocent Lady would frequently ask the Reason, but had no answer, but what his Eyes delivered in burning glances. Thus he continued for a Month or more; at the end of which, he resolved one way or other to make his Passion known, and soon found an opportunity to drop a Letter in the way of the lovely Dorinda, containing these words:

Beauteous Dorinda, after many sighs and eager looks, I have presumed to let you know

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know, if this come to your fair Hand, that
I love you dearer than my own life, and to
be requited with your love, there is not
any thing so hazardous that I would not
undertake for your sake; the inequality I
must confess, is great, yet Love is a Power
obedient to no law but his own: pity me
then as a Lover, that love you above all
Earthly things, and look not on me as
your Father's Servant, but as your Devo-
ted Slave, by whose Smiles I live, and with-
out which, my life must needs be miserable.

Subscribed Aurelius.

This did not a little surprize the beau-
tiful Maid, who considered, that altho'
he being as then a Servant, she might
for all that have cause to love him, yet
highly displeasing to her Parents, if she
should countenance his affections; where-
fore preferring her Duty and Obedience be-
fore her Fancy, or the Passion of Aurelius,
the next time she met him, her words were,
That she could not but wonder, he should
presume to make Love to her, who was his
Master's Daughter, e're half his time was
expired, and wished him not to make
mention of it any more by Letter or word,
least her Father were made acquainted with

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it, to his prejudice ; and so with a kind of a scornful frown, left him as one in a maze of Grief.

C H A P. VII.

How he got leave to go for Turkey, and what ensued.

Aurelius being thus repulsed in his first Love, found himself altogether restless, and that as often as he beheld his beautiful Mistress, his Flame encreased, and his Torture was more and more augmented ; and though he tryed many ways to give way to his labouring mind, he found them in vain, and therefore concluded, unless he were remov'd from the lovely Object, he must be always miserable ; and perceiving her looks and carriage every day more and more scornful towards him, he resolved to request his Master that he might go for Turkey as his Factor in the next Fleet : which Request of his, was granted without much difficulty, and in a gallant Equipage took leave ; though not without some tears of his scornful Mistress, who by this time, began somewhat to relent, that she

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had so unkindly repulsed his Address, but
being young and beautiful, and consider-
ing, that to those advantages her indul-
gent Father would add a large Portion,
her thoughts of a higher advancement,
hushed that care and so they parted ; the
valiant Aurelius to the Ship, and the La-
dy to her Chamber ; where we must leave
her (who shortly after Married a Rich
Merchant) and follow him into Turkey.

C H A P. VIII.

How he arrived in Turkey, and of his Re-
ception : How he overthrew the Turks,
and killed a Turkish Prince,

The gallant Aurelius having passed the
danger of the Seas, and a while con-
tended with the Storms of Winds and
Love, Landed at Constantinople, where he
was received with much respect, by the
English Merchants and Factors residing
there, and behaved himself so well in the
management of his Affairs, that he
gained a general Esteem ; and in all this
he forgot not to exercise his Valour, as
occasion requir'd ; and being by this time
grown to his full Strength, he found no
ab.

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able to encounter him, though he was too modest to boast of his own Abilities: Now it so fell out, that upon the Marriage of one of the Tuck's Daughters, great Sports and Shows were prepared, and all the valiant Knights summoned to exercise at Tilt and Turnament in honour of the Ladies and their Countries. This News pleased Aurelius so well, that he resolved to make one amongst them, and shew his Powells for the Honour of the English Nation, against the proud Infidels, and therupon provided Armour, a Horse, Sword and Lance, bearing in his Shield a Golden Phoenix, to signifie he was a Subject to a Virgin Queen; and under it Neptune Brideling the Ocean; shewing, that the Heas Sovereignty depended on her Will: so for his Armour it was White, signifying Innocence.

Thus habely Accuired, he hasted to the List, to await the Trumpets sound, where all the Nobles and Ladies were seated in their Degrees, clad in Gold and Jewels, when on a sudden, thre Tucks well mounted, and richly arm'd, advanced with their Mooned Shields, and with loud voice, bid Defiance as the Bride-

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groom's Champions, to all the Knights
of Christendom; which made Aurelius mad
to let them know what English Valour
was; but perceiving the Champions of
other Nations preparing for the Encoun-
ter, he forbear till he might be a witness,
of their Fortune, and that his Honour
might be the greater, in overcoming their
overcomers: nor did he miss, for the Turks
being of a Monstrous size, and well mana-
ged to such Feats of Arms, at the first
encounter cast them from their Saddles,
and so passed on, and did the like to thre
others, which made the bold Aurelius be-
lieve it was time for him to advance, and
thereupon, setting Spurs to his Horse,
he met the foremost with a full stroke on
his Breast, that he tumbled him with his
Heels upward, quite over the Cup, and
passing on, struck the second on the Crest,
with such force that he broke it, and the
Launce entring his Brain, he fell breath-
less to the ground, which the third per-
taining, who was of a Giant-like Sta-
ture, came upon him with his Sword, and
with a full blow, cut through his Shield,
and much bruised him, but he charging
furiously upon the Infidel, soon made him
givē ground, and after divers Wounds
obliged

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obliged him to kill the Earth, and beg
quarter for his Life.

To revenge this disgrace of his Champions, the Turkish Prince, with the leave of his Father in-Law, entred the List in great rage, and defied the bold Aurelius, Swearing by Mahomet, he would Chastise the great Affront, and with many reproachful words, bid him to come on, upon which they set Spurs to their Horses, and met with such fury, that their Launces burst, and shivered in the Air, when the Turkish Prince drew his Sword: but Aurelius neglecting to do the like, made at him with the Truncheon of his Spear, with which he gave him such a weighty blow on the top of his Helmet, that broke his Neck in sunder, and down he fell in a mortal Trance, after which the Turks strained Complement, and none durst undertake the valiant English Champion.



C H A P.

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C H A P. IX.

How he destroyed two Lyons prepared to
devour him, and had the King's Daugh-
ter in Marriage.

The Great Turk upon notice that
Prince Grodam his Son-in-law,
whom he thought had only been stunn'd,
was dead, vowed that Aurelius, whom he
called English Boy, should dye the cruel-
lest Death that ever Man dyed, and there-
upon sent a strong Guard to seize him,
and convey him to Prison, till he consul-
ted what manner of Death to put him
to; which in the end was concluded, that
he should be cast alive to two Lyons, who
(to be the greedier in devouring) were kept
fasting many days.

The day of his death, as by appoint-
ment being come, and the King his No-
bles, and all his Ladies, seated to behold
the Execution, the brave Aurelius was
brought forth in a Shirt of Cambria, and
Drawers of white Satin, Embroider'd
with Gold, and a Crimson Cap on his
Head, but had scarce time to bow respect-
ably to the Ladies, who greatly prais-
ed his manly Beauty, and began highly
to

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to pity his misfortune, e're the Lyons were let loose, who at the sight of these Prey, casting their Eyes upon him, began to roar horridly, insomuch that the Spectators trembled; and behold Aurelius, whom Death could not daunt laying aside all fear as they came fiercely to him with open Mouth, charged his Hands into their Throats, and e're they had power to get from his strong Arms, forc'd out their Hearts, and lay'd them dead at his feet, demanding of the King what other dangerous Enterprizes they had to put him on, and he would gladly do it for the Honour of his Queen and Countries sake; when immediately the Emperor descending from his Throne, tenderly Embracing him, swearing he was some Angel; withal Pardonning him, and gave him Beauteous Teoraza his Daughter in Marriage, with great Riches, who for his sake, became a Christian; and after spending some time in that place, they both returned to England with great joy, where they lived many Years very Loding and Happy.



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